

**Dan Miller**

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**From:** Labaw.Joanne@epamail.epa.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 26, 2006 11:32 AM  
**To:** Patrick Vasicek; Phil Williams; Dan Miller; Scott MacGregor; Rob Henry; Dave A. Cook  
**Subject:** Fw: draft response

Everyone,

There have been a lot of e-mails floating around in the past week about obtaining access to the Bremerton Gasworks properties. While I can appreciate the desire to be proactive in obtaining access to sample, I believe this might be premature. I believe this for a number of reasons: First, we have not yet determined the scope of the sampling we want to do. At this point in time, I have only committed the TBA program to conducting Phase I assessments on the designated properties. Second, the grant for the assessment work has not even been awarded yet. It is scheduled to commence on October 1. Once we obtain and review the Phase Is, we can then have an intelligent conversation as to what our sampling approach should be as well as whether the work will be conducted under the TBA or under the grant.

The access agreements usually specify what type of sampling will be conducted, at this time we really do not know this, while we do have some ideas, I am not comfortable specifying this on the access agreement. When we request access, we also provide a timeframe during which the work will be done. We currently do not know that either. EPA typically does not request an access agreement to be signed until we have a good understanding of the scope of the work that will be done.

I can not over emphasize the importance of proper planning. We have limited resources and to make the most of these resources we need to be sure they are used wisely and will provide us with the best information. This site has the potential to be quite complex thus necessitating proper planning even more. While I want to see the project move forward at a reasonable pace, I also want to avoid rushing into something only to find later that mistakes were made and that rework will be required. This can result in project delays and none of us will end up looking very good. I think this is a great project and I want it to succeed. Let's make sure we do the necessary work up front to ensure that it does.

Regards,

Joanne LaBaw

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